

GUIDANCE COUNSELING SERVICES

The County Board of Education recognizes that a comprehensive counseling program can help promote academic achievement and serve the diverse needs of all students. Counseling staff may be available to meet with student to discuss academic achievement and serve the diverse needs of all students. Counseling staff may be available to meet with students to discuss academic, social, or personal difficulties, as well as other issues that may impact student learning.

Academic and Career Counseling

The Santa Cruz County Office of Education's (COE's) academic counseling program may help students establish immediate and long-range educational plans, achieve academic standards, prepare for the high school exit examination, and complete the required curriculum in accordance with their individual needs, abilities, and interests. Insofar as possible, parents/guardians shall be included when making educational plans.

Counseling staff may help all students plan for the future and become aware of their career potential. Academic planning for higher education shall include information about courses needed for admission to colleges and universities, standardized admission tests, financial aid, and scholarships.

The County Superintendent of Schools or designee may establish and maintain a program of guidance, placement, and follow-up for all COE students subject to compulsory continuation education. (Education Code 48431)

Colleges and prospective employers, including military recruiters, shall not have access to students for recruiting purposes. (10 USC 503; Education Code 49603)

Personal Counseling

Counseling staff may identify and work with students whose personal problems may prevent them from reaching their potential. As appropriate, students shall be informed about agencies that offer qualified professional assistance with substance abuse, physical or emotional problems, or other personal problems.

Counselors shall respect student confidentiality as appropriate and shall consult with the County Superintendent or designee or with the COE's legal counsel whenever unsure of how to respond to a student's personal problem. Parent/guardian consultation and consent shall be obtained as appropriate.

Crisis Counseling

The County Board recognizes the need for a prompt and effective response when students are confronted with a traumatic incident. School counselors shall assist in the development of the comprehensive school safety plan, emergency and disaster preparedness plan, and other prevention and intervention practices designed to assist students before and after a crisis.

In addition, the County Superintendent or designee shall identify crisis counseling resources to train COE staff in appropriate response techniques and/or to directly help students cope with such crisis if they occur.

Early identification and intervention plans shall be developed to help identify those students who may be at risk for violence so that support may be provided before they engage in violent or disruptive behavior.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

221.5 Prohibited sex discrimination

37254 Supplemental instruction based on failure to pass exit exam by end of grade 12

49600-49604 Educational Counseling

51250 School age military dependents

51513 Personal beliefs

52378-52380 Supplemental School Counseling Program

PENAL CODE

11166-11170 Reporting known or suspected cases of child abuse

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

4930-4931 Counseling

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 10

503 Military recruiter access to directory information

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1232g Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

7908 Armed forces recruiter access to students and student recruiting information

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

99.1-99.67 Family educational rights and privacy

Adopted: 11/20/2014